

BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ended 31st December, 1945.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

We have the honour to present to you the Annual Report dealing with the work carried out by the Council under the Public Health and other Acts during the year 1945. The duties of Medical Officer of Health were shared by us, as no permanent appointment has yet been made.

The health of the district, on the whole, was satisfactory and there was no unusual or excessive mortality which requires special comment.

Particulars of the incidence of infectious diseases are given in the body of the report.

It will be noted that the total number of cases was considerably higher than in 1944, chiefly due to increased numbers of measles, whooping cough and diphtheria.

There were, however, no epidemics, but a minor outbreak of scarlet fever and measles occurred in Briercliffe and Wors-thorne.

Diphtheria, too, was more prevalent than in recent years. Fifteen cases occurred but these were confined to 11 families and the incidence was spread over 9 parishes.

Immunisation against diphtheria continued during the year and 155 children received treatment. An interesting and informative inquiry was carried out to ascertain the correct number of children under 5 years of age who had been immunised,

as the percentage of children immunised under the Council's scheme appear to be rather low. Details of this inquiry are given on page 23.

The birth-rate of 15·3 per 1,000 of the population was the highest for over 10 years, but was slightly lower than the general rate for the whole country, which was 16·1.

The infant mortality rate of 25 per 1,000 live births was one of the lowest recorded during the last 10 years and compares favourably with the rate of 46 for England and Wales.

The general death-rate was slightly lower than the average taken over the last 10 years but was a little higher than in 1944 and 1·6 higher than the national rate.

Of the 203 deaths, 131 were of persons over 65 years of age. The principal causes of death were:—Heart disease 56, Intracranial vascular lesions 29, Cancer 24 and Bronchitis 19.

There were 7 deaths from tuberculosis as against 3 in 1944.

As regards the sanitary conditions of the district, supervision was well-maintained, but one has again to record the difficulty in getting defects remedied owing to shortage of materials, and the extra work this caused by necessitating frequent re-visits to premises.

We desire to express our indebtedness to Mr. A. Johnson, Sanitary Inspector, for the excellent work he has performed. Much of the responsibility of the health and sanitary services has been borne by him, and he has at all times shown keenness and been untiring in his efforts to improve conditions in the area. We appreciate his assistance.

We are,

Your obedient Servants,

R. E. ROBINSON.

D. C. LAMONT.

Burnley Rural District Council

YEAR 1945.



Chairman : COUNCILLOR WM. ALDERSON.

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR R. TOOTELL.



COUNCILLORS :

Altham	- - -	Herbert Jessop, Pasture Gate, Altham.
Barley	- - -	William James Martin, Hoarstones Cote, Fence.
Blacko	- - -	Irvin Walton, " Hillcrest " Gisburn Road, Blacko.
Briercliffe	- -	James E. Leaver, Rose Cottage, Cockden, Briercliffe.
Cliviger	- - -	William Alderson, C.C., 1, Longfield Terrace, Cliviger.
Dunnockshaw	-	John E. Riley, 4, Prospect Terrace, Dunnock- shaw.
Foulridge	- -	W. I. Berry, " Burnside," Foulridge.
Goldshaw Booth		William Starkie, Craven Lea, Fence, nr. Burnley.
Habergham Eaves		C. Longbottom, Small Hazels Farm, Habergham Eaves.
Hapton	- - -	Edward Dinsdale, " Hambleside," Burnley Road, Hapton.
Higham	- - -	James Stuttard, J.P., Whitehill, Read.
Ightenhill	- -	Frederick Crossley, J.P., Stockbridge House, Padiham.
Old Laund Booth		Francis Holgate, " Lyndene " Fence.
Read	- - - -	David Creears, " Castlebank," Straits Lane, Read.

COUNCILLORS.—CONTINUED.

Reedley Hallows	Richard Tootell, 22, Reedley Grove, Reedley.
Roughlee Booth	Joseph B. Hodgkins, C.A., "Sherwood," Fence.
Sabden - - -	F. Birtwell, 97, Whalley Road, Sabden.
Simonstone and Northtown	J. R. Ferniough, "Edgeley" South View, Whin Lane, Simonstone.
Worsthorne-with- Hurstwood	Alfred Henry Pickles, J.P., "Bryn Hey," Worsthorne.

 OFFICIALS :—

Clerk—H. E. PURTON.

Medical Officers of Health—D. C. LAMONT, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
(Temporary). M.O.H., BURNLEY.

R. E. ROBINSON, M.A., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.O.H., COLNE.
(acting for Dr. Roberts, M.O.H.,
Nelson, serving in the Forces since
February, 1945).

Engineer and Surveyor—F. HEWITT, F.S.I.

Sanitary Inspectors—A. JOHNSON (Chief), M.S.I.A.

H. WOODCOCK, M.S.I.A. (appointed May, 1945).

Council Offices—"OAKLEIGH," REEDLEY, NEAR BURNLEY.

(A) STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.**II.**

Area (in acres)	39841
Population - Census, 1931	17521
Estimated mid-year 1945	15580
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)	5027
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1931)	5047
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1945 according to Rate Book	5954
Rateable value	£123303
Sum represented by a 1d. rate (estimated)	£480

The chief occupations of the people are cotton weaving, coal mining and dairy farming.

There was practically no unemployment in the District during the year. Social conditions, on the whole, were fairly satisfactory.

VITAL STATISTICS.**BIRTHS.**

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births :—Legitimate	228	125	103
Illegitimate	11	6	5
(Birth-rate per 1,000 of the population - 15·3)			
Still Births :— Legitimate	10	4	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—
(Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 40·0).			

DEATHS.

Total.	Male.	Female.
203	91	112
(Death-rate per 1,000 of the population - 13·0).		

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

	Deaths	Death-rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births.
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	1	4·01
Other maternal causes	—	—

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	4	2	2
Illegitimate	2	—	2

Death-rate of all Infants per 1,000 live births — 25.

Death-rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 leg. live births—17.

Death-rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illeg. live births—181.

The following tables shewing the birth and death rates during the last ten years will perhaps be of interest.

BIRTH RATE FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

Year.	Births.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.
1936	178	9.9
1937	180	10.1
1938	184	10.3
1939	203	11.6
1940	181	10.4
1941	190	11.0
1942	194	11.5
1943	225	13.6
1944	245	14.9
1945	239	15.3

DEATH RATE FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

Year.	No.	Rate pr 1,000 of Population.
1936	223	12.4
1937	241	13.6
1938	182	10.2
1939	242	13.8
1940	232	13.3
1941	248	14.3
1942	225	13.3
1943	255	15.4
1944	212	12.9
1945	203	13.0

INFANTILE DEATHS FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

Year.	No.	Rate per 1,000 births.
1936	8	44.0
1937	8	44.0
1938	8	43.0
1939	11	54.0
1940	8	43.0
1941	8	41.0
1942	4	20.0
1943	12	53.0
1944	14	57.0
1945	6	25.0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	30
„ „ Measles (all ages)	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—

	PER 1,000 OF ESTIMATED POPULATION.				MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE.		Rate of Deaths under One Year per 1,000 live births
	Live birth-rate	Crude death-rate	Death-rate from tuberculosis of resp'tory system	Death-rate from cancer	Per 1,000 Live births	Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) births	
Mean of five years—							
1940-1944 ...	12.2	13.8	0.32	1.59	2.87	2.81	42
Year—							
1944	14.9	12.9	0.06	1.34	Nil.	Nil.	57
1945	15.3	13.0	0.44	1.92	4.18	4.01	25
Increase or decrease in 1945 on—							
Five years' average,							
1940-1944 ...	+3.1	—0.8	÷0.12	÷0.33	÷1.31	+1.20	—17
Previous year	+0.4	+0.1	÷0.38	÷0.58	÷4.18	+4.01	—32

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Male.	Female.
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers....	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—
3. Scarlet fever	—	1
4. Whooping cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	1	1
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	4	3
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	—	—
8. Syphilitic diseases	1	—
9. Influenza	—	—
10. Measles	—	—
11. Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	—	—
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	—	—
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (males); also cancer of uterus (F)...	1	3
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	1	1
15. Cancer of breast	—	6
16. Cancer of all other sites	11	7
17. Diabetes	—	1
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	14	15
19. Heart Disease	23	33
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	2	2
21. Bronchitis	10	9
22. Pneumonia	1	1
23. Other respiratory diseases....	1	1
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	—	—
25. Diarrhoea, under 2 years of age	—	—
26. Appendicitis	1	—
27. Other digestive diseases	2	3
28. Nephritis	1	4
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—	1
30. Other maternal causes	—	—
31. Premature birth	—	1
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	2	3
33. Suicide	1	—
34. Road traffic accidents	—	1
35. Other violent causes	—	3
36. All other causes	14	12
	<hr/> 91	<hr/> 112

The total number of deaths was 9 fewer than in the previous year. The average for the previous 10 years was 227 deaths.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGE PERIODS

	Under 1 year	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65-75	75 and over.	Total
Males ...	4	—	—	1	—	5	26	29	26	91
Females...	2	—	1	1	2	6	24	40	36	112
	6	—	1	2	2	11	50	69	62	203

There was no evidence that any of the conditions of occupations or environment had any prejudicial effect on health.

	England and Wales.	126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,00-50,000 at 1931 Census.	Burnley Rural District.
*Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Live Births.....	16.1†	19.1	19.2	15.3
Still	0.46‡	0.58	0.53	0.6
Deaths :—				
All causes	11.4‡	13.5	12.3	13.0
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.01	—
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.12
Influenza	0.08	0.07	0.07	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	—
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—				
Deaths under 1 year of Age	46†	54	43	25
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.6	7.8	4.5	—
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Notifications :—				
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.0
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.0
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.0
Scarlet Fever	1.89	2.02	2.03	2.69
Whooping Cough	1.64	1.65	1.47	1.0
Diphtheriz	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.96
Erysipelas	0.25	0.28	0.24	0.19
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	11.67	10.89	11.19	4.8
Pneumonia	0.87	1.03	0.72	0.57

* A dash (—) signifies that there was no deaths.

† Per 1,000 related births.

‡ Rates per 1,000 Total Population.

(B) GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. **Laboratory Facilities.**—Specimens for bacteriological and pathological examination are sent to the Burnley Public Health Laboratory, Victoria Hospital, Burnley, and the cost of examination is borne by the Rural District Council.

The number of specimens sent to the Laboratory by medical practitioners and others during 1945 is given on page 22.

2. **Ambulance Facilities.**—A free ambulance service for accident and sick cases is in operation throughout the District, by arrangement with neighbouring local authorities whose ambulances are used.

The cost to the Council for the year was approximately £380.

Prior to 1944 a charge was made by the Authority providing the ambulance direct to the person using it.

3. **Nursing in the Home.**—There are three Nursing Associations in the District, viz. :—

- (a) **Fence District**, which includes the parishes of Old Laund Booth, Higham, Barley, Roughlee, Goldshaw Booth and part of Reedley. — One Nurse.
- (b) **Read District** includes the parishes of Read, Sabden, Simonstone. — One Nurse.
- (c) **Cliviger District** includes the parishes of Cliviger, Worsthorne, Hapton, and Habergham Eaves. — Two Nurses.
- (d) **Blacko**, this township is a member of the Nursing Association in the adjacent Urban District of Barrowford.

Other parishes are served by Nursing Associations in nearby towns through voluntary subscriptions.

The nurses attend to midwifery cases on behalf of the County Council. This service, and indeed the nurses work generally, has been of inestimable value to the District, and is greatly appreciated by the public.

The Associations are maintained by public subscriptions, but the County Council meet the cost of the service in connection with midwifery.

4. **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**—The following facilities are available for residents in the Rural District :—

Service.	Situation.
Maternity and Child Welfare.	Centres at Briercliffe, Cliviger, Sabden, Foulridge and Wors-thorne in the Rural District, and at centres in the Urban Districts of Barrowford and Padiham.
Day Nurseries.	None provided.
School Clinics.	Padiham and Nelson.
Tuberculosis Dispensaries.	Accrington and Nelson.
Venereal Disease.	Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

The above are all provided by the Lancashire County Council.

(C)—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

No important changes or developments took place during the year.

The supplies are constant and there was no shortage in any part of the district.

Thirty houses at **Blacko** and thirty-four at **Overtown, Cliviger** were connected to the public water supplies in place of two inadequate private supplies.

Eleven samples were taken, seven from the Council's water supplies and four from private supplies, as follows :—

Township.	Result of Examination.	
	Chemical.	Bacteriological.
Briercliffe	—	Satisfactory.
Cliviger	—	do.
Foulridge	—	Unsatisfactory. (later satis).
Hapton	—	Satisfactory.
Read	—	Fair
Newchurch-in-Pendle	—	Unsatisfactory (later satis. after chlorination)
Sabden	—	Reasonably Satisfactory.

These results were reported to the Council, and, where necessary, appropriate action was taken by the Surveyor's Department to effect an improvement.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES (Piped).

Township.	Chemical.	Bacteriological.
Roughlee School	—	Unsatisfactory.
Offa Hill, Roughlee. (3 farms).	—	do.
Field Top, Fence. (10 houses).	—	Unsatisfactory.
Wheatley Lane, Fence. (One).	Satisfactory.	—

Negotiations are in progress with a view to having Roughlee School, and the houses at Field Top, Fence, connected to public water supplies.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No special action has been taken to check the pollution of rivers and streams in the area. The chief source of pollution is from villages not yet sewered.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There were no important extensions of sewerage nor was any special work carried out in connection with sewage disposal.

Sewerage schemes are needed at Cliviger, Dunnockshaw, part of Briercliffe (Lane Bottom area), and Ightenhill, Newchurch-in-Pendle, Simonstone (Clough area), Reedley Hallows (Ainsdale Ave., and Quaker Bridge) Barley and Roughlee.

A sewerage scheme for Cliviger is at present being considered.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following statement shews the number of closet conversions carried out during the year, and for the previous 5 years :—

	1945.	1940—1944.
Waste water closets to fresh water closets	5	28
Privies to fresh water closets	—	4
Privies to pail closets	—	13
Pail closets to fresh water closets	—	1

The approximate numbers of sanitary conveniences in the District are as follows :—

Fresh-water closets ...	2419
Waste water closets ...	2191
Pail closets	612
Tank closets (cesspools)	423

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

There was no extension or improvement during the year in the arrangements for public cleansing.

Salvage collections again showed a decrease on the previous two years' figures, in spite of all our efforts to keep them up. Waste paper collections fell from 96 tons to 72 tons, and metal from 8 to 5 tons. The receipts fell from £736 to £553.

Waste Paper	...	72 tons 10 cwts. 3qrs.	
Bottles	...	148 doz.	
Jars	...	146 doz. 1 lb., 16 doz. 2 lbs.	
Scrap Iron	...	5 tons 12 cwts. 3 qrs.	
Aluminium	...	1 cwt. 88 lbs.	
Lead	...	2 cwts. 84 lbs.	
Brass	...	1 cwt. 40 lbs.	
Copper	...	68 lbs.	
Zinc	...	18 lbs.	
Bones	...	29 cwts. 34 lbs.	
Rags	...	71 cwts. 33 lbs.	
Waste Rubber		1 ton 5 cwts.	

The sale of this material realised £553 14s. 4d.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The several townships in the District have been regularly inspected.

Sixty-one complaints were received. These were immediately investigated and dealt with.

Number of visits to premises	...	...	...	...	874
Number of defects or nuisances found	...	...	...	...	337
Number of notices issued—(a) Preliminary	...	...	...	...	74
(b) Statutory	...	...	...	...	2

MATTERS DEALT WITH :—

Defective dustbins renewed	...	...	...	...	179
Defective sanitary pails renewed	...	...	...	...	48
Blocked waste water closets opened	...	...	...	...	6
Water under house floors	...	...	...	...	1
Burst water pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Defective troughings repaired	...	...	...	...	2
House walls repointed	...	...	...	...	1
Blocked drains opened	...	...	...	...	21
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	28
Bad smell in houses	...	...	...	...	2
Yard wall rebuilt	...	...	...	...	1
Septic tanks cleansed	...	...	...	...	8

New sink provided	1
Defective scullery windows renewed	1
Defective floor boards renewed	1
Defective closet trap renewed	1
Defective closet tipper repaired	1
Defective yard surface relaid	1
Defective fireback boiler renewed	1
Dirty houses cleansed	3
Accumulations of refuse removed... ..	2
Caravans removed	2
Insanitary closet accommodation at Cafe	1
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Total nuisances abated ...	317
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SHOPS.

No action was taken during the year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, relating to temperature and ventilation of shops and to sanitary conveniences, nor under the Public Health Act, 1936.

CAMPING SITES.

- (a) Number of sites in the District which were used for camping purposes during 1945 Two
- (b) Number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 None
- (c) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the district at one time during the summer season 60

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No special action was taken with regard to smoke abatement.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

No changes or developments during the year.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Several inspections were made and the sanitary conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

No action was taken with regard to tents, vans, sheds, etc. in the district. There are no local byelaws dealing with these or similar structures.

SCHOOLS.

Conditions reported in previous reports are unchanged and no school closure took place on account of infectious disease.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No case of infestation was reported or found during the year.

(D) HOUSING.

The housing conditions, generally, are fairly satisfactory considering that during the war years practically no housing work has been possible. Like every other place in the country new houses are urgently needed and the Council are proposing to build 183 houses at a first instalment of their housing programme.

(a) STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the Year :— None.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	423
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	501
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	397
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	397
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous as to be unfit for human habitation...	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	26

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	26
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3. Action under statutory powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ..	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices		0

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year (estimated)	... ..	18
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	18
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	82
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	... ..	0
(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	... ..	0

The repairs effected to houses during the year were of a general character and included such items as:—pointing of walls; provisions of new eaves gutters and downspouts; repairs to roofs, floors, window frames, etc.; paving of yard surfaces.

Considerable difficulty was again experienced in getting repairs done on account of shortage of labour and materials.

(E) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**(a) MILK SUPPLY.**

Particulars as to the number of dairy farms in the district have been given in previous reports.

The number of inspections made during 1945 ... 392

Notices issued re defects and dirty conditions ... 24

Improvements effected :—

Cliviger Laithe Farm,
CLIVIGER.

Considerable alterations to the cowshed, including :—

(a) Standings turned round so that the cattle stand tail-to-tail.

(b) Floor concreted.

(c) Windows enlarged.

(d) Tubular steel fittings fixed in place of wood boskins.

(e) Modern dairy built.

Farside Farm, CLIVIGER.	(a) New modern dairy built.
Cobcar Nook Farm, READ.	(a) Cowshed floor concreted.
Whittaker Farm, READ.	(a) Cowshed floor concreted. (b) Additional windows provided. (c) Dairy built.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOOD.

Under the Government's war-time scheme of meat control the private slaughterhouses in the district have not been used since the beginning of the war ; all slaughtering for this area is at present being done at the abattoir in Burnley.

The butchers' shops have, however, been inspected and were found clean and well-maintained. The following articles of food were condemned during the year :—

137 tins of biscuits.

8 lbs. of butter.

2 tins (2½ lbs.) chopped ham.

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC.

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and deal with adulteration of food, etc.

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF FOOD.

Examinations are carried out at the Burnley Municipal Laboratory. No food was sent for examination during the year.

(e) NUTRITION.

No special action was taken.

(f) SHELL-FISH (MOLLUSCAN).

There are no shell-fish beds or layings in the District.

**(F) PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

GENERAL.

There was a considerable increase in the total number of cases reported as compared with the number in 1944 in which year the incidence of infectious disease was exceptionally low. The number, however, was well below the average for the previous 5 years.

An outbreak of measles occurred at Briercliffe and Wors-thorne, but apart from this, the incidence of disease was not high in any one parish.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

			1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Smallpox....	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	....	....	15	47	71	40	39	42
Diphtheria	....	....	6	11	1	4	3	15
Enteric fever (including paratyphoid)	....	....	—	3	—	—	—	—
Measles	....	....	147	146	73	173	33	75
Whooping cough	....	....	44	37	22	27	2	16
Acute pneumonia	....	....	22	16	11	10	6	9
Puerperal pyrexia	....	....	1	—	4	2	2	2
Cerebro-spinal fever	....	....	1	4	2	1	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	....	....	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	....	....	—	—	—	3	4	7
Erysipelas	....	....	8	6	8	1	4	3
Ophthalmia Neon	....	....	—	1	4	5	—	1
Total	....	....	245	271	196	266	93	170

Scarlet Fever :—The cases were fairly well distributed over the whole district, notifications being received from 14, out of 20, parishes.

The figures shown in brackets are the numbers for the previous year.

Townships from which notifications were received :—

Altham	1 (1)	Higham	2 (2)
Barley	0 (1)	Ightenhill	0 (1)
Blacko	2 (1)	Northtown	0 (0)
Briercliffe	11 (5)	Old Laund Booth	4 (3)
Cliviger	1 (2)	Read	0 (9)
Dunnockshaw	0 (0)	Reedley	5 (2)
Foulridge	4 (1)	Roughlee	1 (1)
Goldshaw Booth	2 (2)	Sabden	0 (1)
Habergham Eaves.....	1 (0)	Simonstone	1 (1)
Hapton	6 (2)	Worsthorne	1 (4)

Seasonal Prevalence.

January	10 (7)	July	2 (1)
February.....	3 (3)	August	2 (0)
March	4 (8)	September	1 (4)
April	0 (3)	October	2 (0)
May	4 (4)	November	8 (2)
June	3 (4)	December	3 (3)

Twenty-three patients were removed to the Infectious Disease Hospital, 55% of the total number notified.

There were no deaths.

Diphtheria :—Fifteen cases occurred, compared with 3 in 1944.

Townships affected :—

Briercliffe	5	Read	1
Hapton	3	Sabden	1
Habergham Eaves	1	Northtown	1
Cliviger	1	Worsthorne	1
Foulridge	1		

Seasonal Prevalence.

January	2	May	3
February	2	July	1
March	2	August	3
April	1	December	1

Of the 5 cases at Briercliffe, 3 occurred in one family and 2 in another; and of the 3 cases at Hapton, 2 were from one family.

There were 2 deaths, one a man aged 32 and the other a child aged 2 years, neither of whom had been immunised.

Six of the patients had previously received immunisation treatment.

All the cases were removed to the Infectious Disease Hospital.

Measles :—There was a large increase in the number of cases reported, compared with the previous year's figure, which was exceptionally low.

Townships from which notifications were received :—

Altham	4 (0)	Higham	1 (1)
Barley	0 (1)	Ightenhill	0 (2)
Blacko	0 (1)	Northtown	0 (0)
Briercliffe	27 (1)	Old Laund Booth	3 (0)
Cliviger	4 (2)	Read	0 (0)
Dunnockshaw	1 (0)	Sabden	6 (20)
Foulridge	0 (1)	Reedley	7 (2)
Goldshaw Booth	0 (0)	Simonstone.....	0 (0)
Habergham Eaves.....	2 (1)	Worsthorne.....	4 (1)
Hapton	6 (0)		

Seasonal Prevalence.

January	5	July	9
February	4	August	3
March	17	September	0
April	17	October	0
May	14	November	0
June	5	December	1

Pneumonia :—Nine cases were notified as compared with 6 in 1944, and an average of 13 in the previous 5 years.

There were two deaths during the year from this disease.

Townships from which notifications were received :—

Briercliffe	1	Old Laund Booth	2
Cliviger	1	Reedley	1
Habergham Eaves	2	Worsthorne	2

Seasonal Prevalence.

June	1	November	1
August	2	December	2
October	3		

Whooping Cough :—There were 16 cases notified as compared with 2 in the previous year. In 1944 the number was exceptionally low, the average number for the preceding 4 years 1940—1943 being 32.

Townships from which notifications were received :—

Altham	2	Reedley	6
Goldshaw Booth	1	Sabden	1
Old Laund Booth	2	Worsthorne	4

Seasonal Prevalence.

January	1	September	2
March	1	October	4
July	7	December	1

Eleven of the 16 cases came from 5 families, 2 each from 4 families and 3 in another.

There were no deaths.

Other Infectious Disease :—None of the other infectious diseases calls for special comment.

Disinfection :—66 houses were disinfected during the year. Fumigation or spraying with formalin is the usual method employed. Where necessary, bedding, etc. is removed to the Burnley Corporation Cleansing Station for steam disinfection.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations.

	Total	Negative	Positive
Swabs (Diph). ...	38	33	5
Sputum (T.B.) ...	11	11	—
Faeces (Ent. or Dys.)	20	—	—

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The number of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year was :—

0—4 years of age ...	116
5—14 years of age ...	39

At the end of the year 1944, 31·7% of children under 5 years of age and 56·6% between 5 and 15 years of age had been immunised under the Council's scheme. Many children receive treatment privately by the family doctor and in order to obtain information on this point and thus ascertain exactly how many children under 5 years of age had been immunised, a questionnaire was sent to every home in the District where there was a child within this age group, and no official record of the child having had treatment. A combined leaflet and consent form was included with the questionnaire.

The replies to this enquiry were as follows:—

Circulars, etc. sent out	...	...	350	in respect of	426	children
Replies received	...	...	218	,, ,,	251	,,

Number of children immunised :—

(a) At Clinics outside rural district	...	...	63
(b) Privately by family doctor	...	...	112
		Total	175

Consent forms returned for treatment to be given	...	23
Parents making own arrangements	...	11
Objections	...	38
Blank returns	...	4
No reply	...	132

The percentage of children immunised at the end of the year, 1945, was :—

0—4 years of age	.....44%
5—14 years of age	.....57%

Prophylactic used by Council - A.P.T.

No post-Schick tests were undertaken.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR, 1945.

The following analysis of cases of infectious diseases notified, and deaths therefrom, under the various age groups, will perhaps be of interest.

Notifiable Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.												Hospital.		Total Deaths	
	Total cases at all ages	Years.									Total cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District				
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35			35-45	45-65		65 & over
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	42	—	4	1	3	18	8	6	1	—	—	—	—	23	—	—
Diphtheria ...	15	1	1	—	3	1	2	3	4	—	—	—	—	15	2	—
Enteric fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute pneumonia (primary & influenzal)	9	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	3	—	—
Dysentery ...	7	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	75	1	8	9	8	41	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	16	1	3	1	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	170	4	7	17	11	18	65	15	12	11	6	2	2	43	2	4

Cancer :—The number of deaths from cancer was 30, eight more than in the previous year.

The average number of deaths for the decennial period 1935-1944 was 27.

Localisation of the disease :—

FEMALES :—Lung 4 ; Uterus 4 ; Colon 1 ; Breast 4 ; Liver 3.
Rectum 1 ; Others 2.

MALES :—Stomach 1 ; Prostate 2 ; Pancreas 2 ; Oesophagus 1 ;
Lung 1 ; Colon 2 ; Rectum 2.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGE PERIODS.

	15-20	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	Over 75
Males ...	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2
Females	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	1	1	7	4

DEATHS DURING PAST 10 YEARS.

	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Males ...	10	17	14	15	12	16	16	13	14	11
Females	18	11	15	12	16	10	18	12	8	19
Total ...	28	28	29	27	28	26	34	25	22	30

DEATH RATE FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

Year.	Cancer Deaths.		Total number of Deaths (all causes).		Rate per 100 deaths.	
1936	...	24	...	240	...	10·0
1937	...	28	...	223	...	12·5
1938	...	28	...	241	...	11·6
1939	...	29	...	182	...	15·9
1940	...	27	...	242	...	11·2
1941	...	28	...	232	...	12·1
1942	...	26	...	248	...	10·5
1943	...	34	...	225	...	15·1
1944	...	25	...	255	...	9·8
1945	...	30	...	203	...	14·7

TUBERCULOSIS.

Number of primary notifications received from medical practitioners on Form 'A'	Total.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
	...	17	...	12	...	4
Un-notified cases (obtained from Death Returns)	...	—	...	1	...	—
Total	...	<u>17</u>	...	<u>13</u>	...	<u>4</u>

Localisation of the Disease :—

	M.		F.		Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	...	7	...	13
Glands of Neck ...	2	...	1	...	3
Peritoneum ...	1	...	—	...	1
	<u>9</u>	...	<u>8</u>	...	<u>17</u>

Occupation of Patients :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
Publican ...	—	...	...	1
Clerk (Office) ...	2	...	...	—
Household Duties ...	4	...	...	—
Weavers (Cotton Mill) ...	3	...	...	—
Painter ...	1	...	...	—
Children ...	1	...	...	2
Plumber ...	1	...	...	—
Sheet Metal Worker ...	1	...	...	—
Apprentice Brick Layer ...	1	...	...	1
	<u>13</u>	...	...	<u>4</u>

The following table shews the age periods of new cases and of deaths in the area :—

Age. Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—
20—25	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
35—45	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—55	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
55—65	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
	6	7	3	1	4	3	—	—
Totals	13		4		7		—	

TABLE.

Comparative Statement of Cases Notified during past 10 years.

Year.	PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1936	7	7	1	3	18
1937	4	8	2	3	17
1938	1	7	4	6	18
1939	5	4	1	4	14
1940	5	5	5	2	17
1941	7	4	6	5	22
1942	3	11	1	0	15
1943	3	7	—	3	13
1944	3	3	4	3	13
1945	6	7	3	1	17

The notification of the disease by medical practitioners is very satisfactorily carried out and no case of wilful neglect or refusal to notify has occurred.

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.		
Year.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.
1936	7	4	—	1	12
1937	3	7	3	1	14
1938	2	—	1	—	3
1939	2	3	—	—	5
1940	4	5	—	—	9
1941	3	5	3	1	12
1942	3	6	—	1	10
1943	—	2	—	1	3
1944	1	—	—	2	3
1945	4	3	—	—	7

Of the 7 deaths there was one un-notified case.

There does not appear to be any evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation.

Nine patients were sent to various sanatoria for treatment, and two pulmonary and seven non-pulmonary cases were reported by the County Tuberculosis Officer to have recovered from the disease.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, which relate to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade ; or under the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

D. C. LAMONT.

R. E. ROBINSON,

Joint Medical Officers of Health.